Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the specification originally submitted for this patent application with the substitute specification which is enclosed with this Reply.

Please replace the abstract with the following amended paragraph:

A method ~~The present invention relates to a method~~ for high-temperature heat treatment of ~~treating~~ a stacked load of ligneous [[woody]] material in an enclosed space having a ~~made up of stacked elements, particularly a load of wood, by high-temperature heat treatment, using an enclosed treatment space which comprises means for processing a load of woody material that is to be treated (5), this load of woody material delimiting, within said enclosed space, a first volume (8) known as the~~ raised-pressure chamber [[,]] ~~situated~~ upstream of the load ~~that is to be treated (5)~~ and a ~~second volume (9) known as the~~ recovery chamber [[,]] ~~situated~~ downstream of the [[said]] load, a heater and a blower for ~~heating means (10) for heating a heat transfer fluid circulating in said enclosed space (1), circulating means (11)~~ continuously circulating a [[said]] heat-transfer fluid in the enclosed space, sensors ~~monitoring means~~ for monitoring the temperature and moisture content of

the enclosed space, and a spray boom ~~regulating means (12)~~ for regulating the temperature and humidity of the enclosed ~~treatment~~ space. The [[,]] ~~and sealing means sealing the top and bottom of the load of material, said method being characterized in that it comprises the steps consisting:~~

~~in permanently monitoring and measuring the~~ atmosphere in each of the [[said]] chambers is monitored and measured using the sensors. Data from the sensors is compared and operation of the heater, the blower and the spray boom are ~~temperature monitoring means then in comparing the data emanating from these monitoring means so as to act~~ simultaneously and uniformly adjusted to perform ~~on the altering of the power of the means (10) for heating and, if any, on the cooling, of the heat-transfer gas by the regulating means (12) thus running~~ a heat-treatment cycle which is [[,]] ~~the rise in temperature of which is either linear or in steps, the temperature step levels and their duration being preestablished; this rise in temperature is then governed as~~ a function of characteristics ~~the behavior~~ of the load of ligneous [[woody]] material ~~(5) in terms of its thermal conductivity~~ and ~~as a function of~~ equilibrium between the flow rate and [[the]] speed of the heat-transfer fluid between the two chambers [[(8, 9)]].

~~**Figure for the Abstract:** single figure.~~